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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 053357
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----------110406Z 112816 /62
R 101918Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, UNDP, ECOSOC, TD

SUBJECT: GOTT CANDIDACY FOR GOVERNING COUNCIL OF UNITED
NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (UNDP)

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 592

1. U.S. CONTINUES TO FOLLOW THE GENERAL PRACTICE OF
DEFERRING TO THE ENDORSEMENTS BY THE RESPECTIVE REGIONAL
GROUPS OF COUNTRY CANDIDACIES FOR ELECTION TO UN BODIES
(FYI WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CUBA IN PARTICULAR). THEREFORE
WE GENERALLY REFRAIN FROM OFFERING SUPPORT UNTIL THE
RESPECTIVE REGIONAL GROUP ENDORSEMENTS ARE MADE KNOWN.
WHEN A REGIONAL GROUP IS UNABLE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON
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PAGE 02 STATE 053357

ENDORSEMENTS, HOWEVER, WE THEN MUST MAKE OUR OWN SELECTION.

2. HENCE, WE SUGGEST THAT YOUR FORMAL REPLY TO THE GOTT
BE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: "THE MINISTRY MAY BE ASSURED
THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO
THE CANDIDACY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IN TAKING ITS POSITION
ON ELECTIONS TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AT THE 62ND SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL IN APRIL-MAY 1977. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT IS THE CUSTOMARY PRACTICE OF THIS GOVERNMENT TO DEFER TAKING A POSITION ON ELECTIONS TO UNITED NATIONS BODIES UNTIL THE

PREFERENCES OF THE RESPECTIVE REGIONAL GROUP HAVE BEEN INDICATED."

3. IN DELIVERING THE ABOVE REPLY, THE EMBASSY MIGHT WISH TO ADD INFORMALLY THAT WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO VOTE FOR TRINIDAD/TOBAGO IF IT SUCCEEDS IN WINNING THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP IN NEW YORK.

4. BECAUSE OF ABOVE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE DO NOT SEE MUCH TO OFFER AS QUID PRO QUO FOR A TRADE-OFF WITH RESPECT TO OUR OWN CANDIDACY FOR THE WHO EXECUTIVE BOARD. MOREOVER, LATTER DIFFERS FROM THE NORM IN THAT WE ARE MEMBERS OF THE WHO AMERICAN REGION CAUCUS, WHOSE ENDORSEMENT WE MUST SEEK. ON THE OTHER HAND, IN THE CASE OF THE ECOSOC ELECTIONS TO THE UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL (MORE THE NORM), WE ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE UN LATIN AMERICAN GROUP WHOSE ENDORSEMENT TRINIDAD/TOBAGO WILL NEED. NEVERTHELESS, THE EMBASSY MAY IN ITS DISCRETION USE THE OCCASION OF DELIVERING THE U.S. REPLY TO REMIND THE GOTT OF OUR RECENT REQUEST FOR SUPPORT IN THE AMERICAN REGION CAUCUS AT THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY NEXT MAY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: POLICIES, ELECTION CANDIDATES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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